

## Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15

PRS-01 EB-11 OMB-01 COME-00 DRC-01 /127 W

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R 251656Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6767

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 5481

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SP FR

SUBJ: FRENCH-SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTERIAL TALKS

REF MADRID 4907, 4935 (NOTAL)

1. FROM MFA AND FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCES, EMBASSY HAS GATHERED FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND COMMENT ON JOBERT-LOPEZ RODO TALKS AUGUST 27-28.

2. PRIMARY PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS TO ESTABLISH PERSONAL CONTACT, AND FOSTER WORKING RELATIONSHIP TO CONTINUE REGULAR SPANISH-FRENCH CONSULTATIONS. (PRESS REPORTS HERE HAVE NOTED THAT TWO MEN ALREADY ACQUAINTED, HAVING WORKED TOGETHER EARLIER WHEN BOTH WERE INVOLVED IN THEIR RESPECTIVE ECONOMIC PLANNING AGENCIES.) PRINCIPAL TOPIC WAS EEC. JOBERT REAFFIRMED FULL SUPPORT FOR SPANISH MEMBERSHIP. WHILE LOPEZ RODO WELCOMED FRENCH SUPPORT FOR CURRENT STEPS LEADING TO CLOSER SPANISH ASSOCIATION, STRESSED SPAIN STILL NOT READY FOR FULL EEC MEMBERSHIP.

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3. BORDER PROBLEMS ALSO MAJOR TOPIC, PRINCIPALLY OF

CONCERN TO SPANISH. LOPEZ RODO APPEALED FOR TIGHTER FRENCH SURVEILLANCE OVER BASQUE EXILES WHO CONDUCT SUBVERSIVE AND TERRORIST ACTS AGAINST SPAIN FROM FRENCH BORDER AREA "SANCTUARIES". LOPEZ RODO SPECIFICALLY COMPLAINED ABOUT PRACTICE OF BASQUE EXILES DISTRIBUTING ANTI-FRANCO LEAFLETS AND OTHER FORMS OF PROPAGANDA TO SPAIN-BOUND TOURISTS NEAR BORDER CROSSING POINTS IN FRANCE. HE ALSO ASKED FOR EXTRADITION OF BASQUES WHO COMMIT TERRORIST CRIMES IN SPAIN. JOBERT MAINTAINED POSITION THAT GOF CANNOT LAWFULLY RESTRICT BASQUES IN BORDER AREAS WHO DO NOT ENGAGE IN POLITICAL AGITATION. THOSE WHO DO AGITATE ARE EITHER EXPELLED OR TRANSFERRED TO AREAS OF FRANCE AWAY FROM THE BORDER. HE POINTED OUT DIFFICULTY UNDER FRENCH LAW OF EXTRADITING RESIDENTS CHARGED WITH POLITICAL CRIMES.

4. TRADE AND INVESTMENT WERE DISCUSSED BUT FEW DETAILS AVAILABLE. THERE WAS THOROUGH REVIEW OF FRENCH-SPANISH INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN MILITARY FIELD BUT NO NEW PROGRAMS WERE AGREED UPON. JOBERT DISCUSSED CURRENT STATUS OF SECAM COLOR TV SYSTEM, SEEKING SPANISH COOPERATION BECAUSE FRENCH HOPE TO EXTEND SYSTEM TO ALGERIA AND MOROCCO WITH LINKUP THROUGH SPAIN. LOPEZ RODO TOOK POSITION THAT SPAIN PLANS TO MAKE ITS FINAL DECISION ON COLOR TV SYSTEM NO EARLIER THAN 1976. THEREFORE SPAIN WOULD BE BEST SERVED BY DEFERRING COMMITMENTS NOW AND WAITING UNTIL 1976 WHEN THERE MAY BE FURTHER TECHNICAL ADVANCES.

5. TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS REVIEWED SITUATION IN MOROCCO, COMPARING NOTES ON THEIR RESPECTIVE RESPONSE TO AGRICULTURAL EXPROPRIATIONS AND FISHING RESTRICTIONS. MOROCCO'S CURRENT INSTABILITY WAS DISCUSSED, BUT NO VIABLE ALTERNATIVE WAS SEEN TO KING HASSAN. THERE WAS SOME REFERENCE TO KING HASSAN'S SUSPICION OF US INVOLVEMENT IN THE 1972 COUP ATTEMPT. IN THIS CONNECTION FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCE STATED THAT BELIEF US INVOLVED IN COUP ATTEMPT WAS HELD IN VERY HIGH MOROCCAN OFFICIALS CIRCLES. CURRENT US-MOROCCAN RELATIONS WERE SEEN AS STILL CLOUDED IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE KENITRA AFFAIR.

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6. PRESS REPORTS HERE TO THE CONTRARY, MFA DIRECTOR OF WESTERN EUROPE AFFAIRS CONFIRMED THAT ANDORRA WAS NOT ITEM OF DISCUSSION. SOURCE CHARACTERIZED ANDORRA AS NOTHING MORE THAN "DIPLOMATIC CURIOSITY PIECE" THAT IS TOO UNIMPORTANT TO BE DISCUSSED AT THAT LEVEL.

7. LOPEZ RODO EXPECTED TO MAKE RETURN VISIT IN NEAR

FUTURE THOUGH NO DATE ANNOUNCED. MFA OFFICIAL SAID THAT  
PRINCE JUAN CARLOS TENTATIVELY PLANS STATE VISIT TO FRANCE  
SOME TIME IN OCTOBER AND THAT LOPEZ RODO WOULD ACCOMPANY  
HIM.  
RIVERO

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## Message Attributes

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